

Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

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H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2484

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

USINT ALGIERS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT MO SP SS

SUBJ: KING'S YOUTH DAY SPEECH

1. SUMMARY. KING HASSAN DELIVERED RELATIVELY SHORT ANNUAL YOUTH FESTIVAL/BIRTHDAY SPEECH NIGHT OF JULY 8 PRIMARILY DIRECTED AT SPANISH SAHARA ISSUE AND COVERING MUCH PREVIOUS GROUND. THIS, SAID KING, WILL BE YEAR OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MOBILIZATION TO RECOVER ITS TERRITORIES. SPEECH RECOUNTED PARTIAL HISTORY SPANISH-MOROCCAN NEGOTIATIONS ON SAHARA ISSUE SINCE 1956, STRESSED MOROCCAN REASONABLENESS AND SPANISH INTRANSIGENCE AND ASSERTED MOROCCAN REFUSAL TO TOLERATE SPANISH ATTEMPT TO CREATE PUPPET STATE IN SAHARA. MOROCCAN HOPE FOR FRUITFUL DIALOGUE ALSO NOTED. ON DOMESTIC FRONT KING SAID IT WAS BECAUSE OF GOOD STATE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT NATION COULD CONCENTRATE ON EXTERNAL MOBILIZATION. ONLY NEW DOMESTIC ITEMS WERE ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS FOR SMALL MOROCCAN "PEACE CORPS" FOR BLACK AFRICA AND WIDENING OF WORKER PARTICIPATION SCHEMES. OPPOSITION HIGHLY CRITICAL OF KING'S SELF-CONGRATULATION

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ON DOMESTIC CONDITIONS. END SUMMARY

2. KING HASSAN DEVOTED LESS THAN HALF HOUR TO ANNUAL YOUTH FESTIVAL/BIRTHDAY (HE WILL BE 45 ON JULY 10) SPEECH THIS YEAR ESSENTIALLY ADDRESSING PROBLEM OF SPANISH SAHARA. SPEECH BEGAN WITH FEW BRIEF PASSAGES REFERRING TO SATISFACTORY PROGRESS MADE OR BEING MADE IN ALL FIELDS AT HOME AND SHIFTED QUICKLY TO A RECOUNTING OF HISTORY OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN OVER THE SAHARA IN 19-YEAR PERIOD. ACCORDING TO KING, MOROCCO HAD, "IN ORDER TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS WITH CERTAIN AFRICAN STATES AND IN THE EVENT THAT SPAIN REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE OUR RIGHTS," PROPOSED A UN-SPONSORED REFERENDUM TO SPAIN IN 1966. MOROCCANS HAD ALSO OFFERED ALLOW SPANISH TO HAVE MILITARY BASES AND TO COOPERATE IN EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES. BUT, HE ADDED, SPAIN HAD IGNORED ALL MOROCCAN OFFERS AND IS NOW IN PROCESS OF CREATING A "PUPPET STATE IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF OUR COUNTRY." THIS, HE SAID, WOULD BE UNTHINKABLE MENACE TO MOROCCAN SECURITY AND INTEGRITY. HE THEN STRESSED THAT MOROCCAN SAHARA POLICY WAS NOT DESIGNED TO CAMOUFLAGE INTERNAL PROBLEMS BECAUSE "WE HAVE NO PROBLEMS," AND PROGRESS IN ALL FIELDS HAS EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS. THERE ARE CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES TO OVERCOME, BUT COUNTRY HAS NOTHING TO HIDE, AND ALL MOROCCANS TOTALLY UNITED ON THE QUESTION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

3. ADDRESSING HIMSELF "TO OUR SUBJECTS IN THE SAHARA," AND PARTICULARLY TO SAHARAN ASSEMBLY, KING SAID THAT DAY WOULD COME WHEN THEY WOULD REGRET THEIR NAMES WERE "INSCRIBED ON DOCUMENTS UNWORTHY OF SAHARAN PATRIOTISM, FAITH, AND DIGNITY." THIS YEAR, HE CONTINUED, WILL BE YEAR OF "INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MOBILIZATION TO RECOVER OUR TERRITORIES." MOROCCO WILL CONTINUE TO HOPE FOR FRUITFUL DIALOGUE, "BUT DIALOGUE IS NOT ENOUGH" BECAUSE SPANISH MUST KNOW THEY FACE A UNITED MOROCCO WITH ARAB, ISLAMIC, AND AFRICAN ALLIES AT ITS SIDE.

4. ONLY NEW ITEMS NOT RELATED TO SAHARAN QUESTION WERE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT EACH YEAR A HUNDRED OR MORE EDUCATED YOUNG MOROCCANS WOULD BE SENT TO ASSIST DEVELOPMENT OF BLACK AFRICAN STATES ON VOLUNTEER BASIS AND THAT PARTICIPATION OF LABOR IN MANAGEMENT WOULD BE EXTENDED.

5. COMMENT: WHILE TONE OF SPEECH SOMEWHAT TOUGHER, IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESSENTIALLY A REHASH OF GOM POSITIONS AND KING STILL HOLDING OPEN POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS. ALLUSION TO PUPPET STATE CONTROLLED THROUGH A DOCILE SAHARAN ASSEMBLY UNDOUBTEDLY THE NEW SPANISH POLICY REFERRED TO IN JULY 4 LETTER TO FRANCO (RABAT 3128).

6. HIGH OPPOSITION LEADERS BITTERLY CRITICAL OF KING'S SELF-SATISFIED AND SIMPLISTIC DESCRIPTION OF DOMESTIC CONDITIONS.

SUPPORT ALREADY GIVEN FOR ROYAL MILITANCY ON SAHARA DOES NOT
EXTEND TO KING'S DOMESTIC VIEWS, WHICH MOST IN OPPOSITION
SEE AS DREADFULLY UNINFORMED.
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